

[17 August, 2000]

RAJYA SABHA

कैश क्रॉप्स की कमी है? इसको ध्यान में रखते हुए क्या यूनिवर्सिटीज और जो इससे रिलेटिड इंस्टीट्यूशन्स हैं, उनमें विद्यार्थियों को इस प्रकार की शिक्षा देना आरम्भ हुआ है या नहीं और अगर हुआ है तो कहां-कहां पर हुआ है?

श्री नीतीश कुमार: सभापति महोदय, इस संबंध में प्रयत्न जारी रहते हुए बेहतर क्वालिटी, वैरायटीज निकाली जाए, हर योजना में रिसर्च इंस्टीट्यूशन्स में इस पर काम होता रहता है और किसानों के बीच में इसको रिलीज किया जाता है, उनका डिमोंस्ट्रेशन कराया जाता है, उसको लोग अपनाएं इसके लिए इनको सहायता प्रदान की जाती है, सब कुछ किया जाता है। लेकिन किसान की जो इच्छा होती है उसके अनुसार ही वह उत्पादन करता है। हम जो नई कृषि नीति लाए हैं, उसका यह उद्देश्य है कि हर इलाके में कृषि का विकास हो। जिन इलाकों में विकास हुआ है, उसके अलावा भी जो बाकी इलाके होते हैं, उनमें भी कृषि का विकास हो और हम चार परसेंट से ज्यादा ग्रोथ रेट हासिल कर सकें, यह हमारा उद्देश्य है। किसान के मामले में हमारी इच्छा है, सरकार चाहती है कि किसान जो भी उपजाए, बेहतर रिटर्न उसको मिले। आज हम अनाज के मामले में आत्म निर्भर हो गये हैं। गेहूं और चावल का जहां तक सवाल है, उस मामले में हम आत्म निर्भर हैं लेकिन इसके उत्पादन पर जैसा माननीय सदस्य कह रहे हैं, डायवर्सिफिकेशन का जहां तक सवाल है, यह किसान खुद अडॉप्ट करते हैं। जब उन्हें लगेगा कि हमें डायवर्सिफाई करना चाहिए, वे हर क्रॉप को प्रोड्यूस करने के लिए डायवर्सिफाई करेंगे। जैसे दलहन और तिलहन के बारे में कहा, जहां स्थिति बेहतर होती है वहां लोग दलहन को छोड़कर या तिलहन को छोड़कर चावल और गेहूं उपजाने लगते हैं। इस पर किसी प्रकार की रोक नहीं है और सरकार चाहती है कि किसान वह चीज़ उपजाए, जिसमें उसको ज्यादा लाभ मिले।

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question Hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO STARRED QUESTIONS

Torture of Sivakasi children

*345. MISS. MABEL REBELLO: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that is Sivakasi children were tortured to cite their age as 14 even though they were 10 years old and employers procured fake medical certificates;

(b) whether monitoring mechanisms for ensuring effective rehabilitation of child labours are being properly implemented; and

(c) if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (DR. SATYA NARAYAN JATIYA): (a) As per information received from the State Government of Tamil Nadu, allegations are factually incorrect. It has been *inter-alia*, stated that, the age of the child is verified with reference to the birth certificate of each child issued by the local authorities as well as from the school records. The Inspectorate of Factories does not accept the age mentioned orally or the medical certificates issued by the private doctor. The Medical Certificates are issued by the prescribed medical authority as laid down under the Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act, 1986.

(b) and (c) Fire Works Factories and Match Factories registered under Factories Act, 1948 are being periodically inspected once in every three months by the field inspectors of the Department of Inspectorate of Factories. Apart from regular inspections, surprise check, holiday, night and squad inspections are also carried out periodically.

Government of India has been implementing the scheme of National Child Labour Projects (NCLP) at Virudhunagar, for rehabilitation of Children withdrawn from work. The major activity under the scheme is running special schools/centres through non-formal education, vocational training, nutrition, health care, stipend etc. Under this scheme, 85 special schools for the rehabilitation of 4900 working children are under operation. Monitoring of the project is being undertaken through committees constituted at the Cenral, State and District level.

[17 August, 2000]

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Mass Awareness Campaign Through IT Yatras

346. DR. C. NARAYANA REDDY:

SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact Government propose to launch a mass awareness campaign through IT Yatras;

(b) if so, the details of the proposal; and

(c) whether it would be successful with the present literacy rate of the masses?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN): (a) and (b) Ministry of Information Technology had set up a Working Group on IT for Masses which submitted its report on 29.07.2000. Towards mass campaign for IT awareness, the report recommends that IT Yatras should be launched under the leadership of prominent citizens/celebrities in different parts of the country and the Yatras to be conducted during the period 7th November, 2000 to 30th June, 2001 spread over three phases to be financed by the Central Government, State Government and industries equally.

(c) Literacy including computer literacy is useful to avail of the full benefits of Information Technology. However, the benefits of IT can be availed of by illiterates also, for example, by obtaining through Internet information on prevailing agricultural prices.

Impact of Fish Import on Fish Industry

*347. DR. ALLADI P. RAJKUMAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the fish industry is protesting against the move to permit fish imports in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the impact of fish import on internal fish industry?